

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121386

LIMDIS

FOL TEL SENT SECSTATE INFO BEIRUT, GENEVA FROM USUN NY
JUNE 20 TH:

QUOTE: USUN 2306

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, SY

SUBJ: SYRIAN JEWRY

1. GAINOER JACOBSON, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF UNITED HIAS SERVICE, CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON AMB. SCALI JUNE 20. JACOBSON TRANSMITTED TO SCALI LIST OF TWELVE FAMILIES WITH SIXTY- SIX PERSONS WHO HAVE SONS, DAUGHTERS AND PARENTS IN THE US AND TWENTY- SEVEN FAMILIES WHO COMPRISE 135 PERSONS WHO HAVE SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN THE US. HE REQUESTED ABM SCALI TO MEET WITH SYRIAN AMB KELANI TO GIVE HIM THE LIST WITH THE REQUEST THAT SYRIAN GOVERNMENT PERMIT EMIGRATION OF THE LISTED PERSONS SO THAT THEY COULD BE REUNITED WITH RELATIVES IN THE US.

2. JACOBSON SAID THAT AT RECENT MEETING IN GENEVA THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES HAD EXPRESSED OPINION, BASED ON
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RECENT EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, THAT PRESIDENT ASAD OF SYRIA WAS PERSONALLY SYMPATHETIC TO EMIGRATION FOR FAMILY REUNION. ASAD HAD ALSO MENTIONED THAT SOME INDIVIDUALS IN MILITARY AND SECURITY BRANCHES WERE NOT FAVORABLY INCLINED. HCR'S DEPUTY, A SYRIAN NATIONAL, HAD SUGGESTED APPROACH TO SYRIAN AMB. KELANI THROUGH AMB. SCALI. HE STATED THAT KELANI RETAINED SOME INFLUENCE WITHIN SYRIAN GOVERNMENT.

3. SCALI ASSURED JACOBSON THAT HE WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ASSIST.

4. UNLESS THERE IS OBJECTION, AMB. SCALI WILL SEEK MEETING WITH AMB. KELANI. SCALI
UNQUOTE ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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